

**Minutes of the Southeast PTO**  
**November 6, 2006**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:11 PM

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Norma Fisher-Doiron, Edmond Chibeau, Monique Brown, Karen Sommer, Lesley Sweeney, Julie Brown, Ron Baker, Sandra Dunnigan, Leah Grover, Andrea Newton, Barbara Povebslei (sp?)

**THANK YOU'S: Edmond Chibeau**

Elaine Temel, Linda Blum, Julie Brown, Steve Johnson, Meg Harper, Monique Brown, Louanne Cooley, Rebecca Robichaud, Cindy Witek-Brandon, Joyce Meimers, Julie Brennan, Jill Devor, Pat O'Connell-Buckley, Carol Lagrotteria, Meg Harper, Erika LaBella, Katherine. Facchinetti, Laura Stewart and Michelle Kolomyjec, James Hendricks, Mindy Emery, David Turgeon, Zoma Spivak, Betsy Parker, Diane Hutton, Holly Fitch-Briere, Bernard Goffinett, Lisa Cackowski, Elizabeth Latino, Joy Erickson, Art Dimock, Nancy Gifford, Richelle Strimple, Sally Milius, Mallory Bagwell, & Amy Chibeau for broadening our children's education through their work on the Fall Enrichment Clusters

Kimberly Clark

For initiating and facilitating the experimental after-school Science Sampler program.

Kim O'Keefe

For already getting to work on the coordination of the Spring Tag Sale

Nancy Gifford

For getting the Student Directory project to the next stage so that Southeast children and families can more easily get in contact with each other.

Karen Sommers

For handling the Butter Braids & Cookie Dough fundraiser

Margie Ouimette

For running the Yankee Candle fundraiser.

Lynda Sydie

For her continued work on the children's school banking experience.

Kimberly Clark

For coordinating volunteers and running the Fall U-Conn Co-Op Book Fair

Monica Willding & Amy Chibeau

For handling the Fall Bulb fundraiser

Lisa Cackowski & Cheryl Hathway

For setting up and coordinating the Veterans Day Illumination event this coming Thursday.

Pauline Hayes, Kate Cox & the Southeast Brownie Troop 5030

For volunteering to serve hot chocolate at the Veteran's Day Illumination event.

Linda Blum

For continuing to coordinate the paper supplies

Some People we missed last month who helped on the Fall Carnival

The students from Eastern Connecticut State University and University of Connecticut who volunteered their time to run the games. Laura Tordenti facilitated the Eastern students, while I believe it was Scott Andros who helped facilitate the UConn students.

Yara Brauro, Karen Porter, Kimberly Christensen, Andrea Newton  
For their help at 8:00am setting up the Fall Carnival

Bernard Goffinet, Laura, Meredith, Asheley, Greg Gustavsen, Candace Duchaineau, Edmond Chibeau, Leslie Sweeney, Betsy Parker & Norma Fisher-Doiron  
For staying after the Carnival to help clean up.

Monique Brown  
For helping all day with the face painting, with the assistance of Esther & Brenda

Tyler, Birdie, Laura & Meredith  
For running the Moonbounce

Ariane, Emma, Ally, Jennifer, Kristina, Meredith, Laura  
For painting countless children's nails and applying temporary tattoos.

Melissa Shashok, Dave Landry, Lauren, Ashley, Tara, Jaime  
For working the Food Concession.

Heather Spottiswoode  
For figuring out & running the Cotton Candy concession.

Norma suggested copying the Thank you list and sending it home to Southeast families on a regular basis. Ron Baker agreed to organize.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Norma Fisher Doiron**

Calendar of Events passed around to review

Highlights:

- Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> MMS Wizard of Oz Teaser & Veteran's Day Luminary event
- Nov 10<sup>th</sup> No School – Veterans Day
- Nov 13 No School – Professional Development Day
- Nov 15<sup>th</sup> Slim Goodbody assembly
- Nov 20, 21 Parent/Teacher Conferences & Book Fair
- Nov 22 Turkey Trot
- Nov 22, 23 No School – Thanksgiving Break
- Nov 28<sup>th</sup> Family Geography Night

3 – 4 attended Parent's Hour – Fred Baruzzi presented and shared results and information on District Testing. Southeast did very well last March. Analysis of scores: proficient = 90<sup>th</sup> percentile overall in fourth grade. We are in ERG "C" and this was compared with other towns in the same group with Mansfield ranking 18<sup>th</sup>.

Thanksgiving Dinner is November 17<sup>th</sup> and we are looking for parents to help serve. All students and staff sit in the cafeteria to eat together.

The proposed building project that includes a new Computer Lab and Library Media Center for Southeast, was reviewed by the town council, and we are currently looking to have someone come in and help us find a company to do the work. There are many components to this. The town council is looking to do a referendum soon and wants to move forward with this project.

Marsha Hilsenrad is a new hire as a .5 Title I Reading teacher.

Stories for Southeast: It is a program where you can choose to buy books for the library to honor someone. Mickey Maheu is looking for someone in the PTO to take over as the coordinator. Ron Baker will look into this.

**TEACHER'S REPORT: Monique Brown**

None at this time.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT: Monique Brown**

October's minutes were reviewed.

AMENDMENTS: None at this time.

Motion for acceptance by: Ron Baker

2<sup>nd</sup> by : Leah Grover

All in Favor Unanimous

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Lesley Sweeney**

October's Report was reviewed:

Lesley's computer crashed so she had to make due with the actual check book for her report.

Highlights:

- \$2500 income from wrapping paper fundraiser
- 11K income from the carnival
- Total net income \$13,969.03 for October.
- Edmond complimented Lesley on the clarity of the reports.

Motion to accept report: Ron Baker

Seconded by: Karen Sommer

All in Favor

**OTHER:**

Clean Energy Grant:

Virginia Walton wrote to tell us that the Town of Mansfield's Clean Energy Team is soliciting proposals for projects that promote the use of clean energy in our community. Grants range from \$250 to \$2,000. Examples would be:

- Scout troop sign-up campaign for clean energy.
- Community Corn Maze designed to teach visitors about clean energy.
- Elementary school calendar to raise awareness about the importance of clean energy.

Brainstorming:

- Norma suggested creating family kits to promote clean energy at home.
- Edmond suggested promoting it at the next Science Fair by getting money to award students who do a project around clean energy.
- Norma suggested a Solar Panel for our greenhouse.

Monique will talk with Ginny Walton about our ideas

More info can be had from Virginia Walton @ 429-3333 or waltonvd@mansfieldct.org.

Edmond Chibeu highlighted the **referendum issue** voted on tomorrow about heating in the middle school. The current grant is now associated with fossil fuel.

Edmond shared a parent concern that notices going home Friday sometimes aren't looked at until Monday because many students are not getting homework and neglect to check the backpack in a timely fashion. Could they be sent home on another day. Norma and Monique will talk with the office staff and teachers about this.

Nancy Gifford is working on the Southeast Family directory.

Ron Baker highlighted the Walk for Warmth and mentioned that a poster promoting it will be outside the office. Proceeds will go towards the Willimantic Area Interfaith Ministry's (WAIM) emergency fuel fund.

Ron shared an idea for American Education Week. As the PTO used to give out treats to the teachers, possibly this year the PTO offer a massage to teachers. Norma and Monique will talk with the staff about doing this, but on Teacher Appreciation week. Norma suggested donating books to the library in honor of American Education Week. A decision was tabled until our next meeting.

Edmond shared that there is a parent with cancer in our school. He is looking to do something for the family. Could we possibly give them money for towards a dinner out? Pauline Hayes will act as a liaison with the family. We will ask her to report back about what she thinks would be the best way to help them. It was decided to table any vote until later.

Kimberly Clark is putting together an after school science program. Sue Harrington will run the workshop. We budgeted \$300 for scholarships, with \$250 going to EO Smith. A clarification was made that we have \$50 to cover these kinds of situations. A motion was made by Ron Baker that the PTO cover what is needed for scholarships for this event. The motion was seconded by Karen Sommer.

Early dismissal tree. No one has taken this on. The coordinator is responsible for finding a parent volunteer from each classroom to call the families when there is an early closing. Leah Grover agreed to be the coordinator.

Library Pass: Do we want to expand on the Library Pass? Karen Sommer will bring information to the next meeting to review this.

Andrea Newton mentioned a recent article in the paper about a recess program at Goodwin. It highlighted a Kung Fu workshop that they offered during recess. Her brother-in-law runs the Kung Fu place that ran this program. Monique will talk with the staff about their thoughts on this matter. Southeast has celebrated healthy bodies by having the Jump Rope guy come, scheduling Slim Good-body to come, scheduling a ballet company to come, and we have a group coming over from England that will focus on health and fitness. Norma mentioned that we have an Enrichment committee that decides what kinds of programs Southeast does and said to talk to Sue Irvine if you are interested in joining this committee.

Edmond wanted to share that Bill Nye the Science Guy is coming to Eastern Connecticut soon.

Edmond complimented the group on a positive, productive meeting.

**FUNDRAISING REPORT: Karen Sommer**

Butterbraids & Cookie Dough are coming in Thursday. We made \$642 from this fundraiser. The Gardens at Bassett's Bridge Farm gave \$80 from their promotion in the spring. The wrapping paper fundraiser made a lot of money.

Motion to adjourn: Ron Baker

Motion seconded by: Karen Sommer

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:35 PM**  
**RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY: MONIQUE M. BROWN 11/11/06**  
**NEXT MEETING: December 4, 2006**